

Corsley and Chapmanslade

Parochial Church Council



Annual Report

for the year ended 31st December 2020

**Accepted at the Parochial Church Council
When?**

**Presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Thursday 29th April 2021
The meeting was held via zoom**

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Administrative Information

There are, at the end of 2020, two churches in the Anglican Parish of Corsley and Chapmanslade. Situated in the High Street, Chapmanslade is the Parish Church of **St. Philip and St. James'**. In Corsley at the bottom of Deep Lane is the Parish Church of **St. Margaret of Antioch**. The two churches are in the Benefice of the Cley Hill Villages, which is part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England. The Parochial Church Council is a charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission.

Parochial Church Council members who have served since the last Annual Parish Church Meeting are:

Priest in Charge		Reverend Pauline Reid
Wardens:	St. Philip & St. James	Ian Buick
	St. Margaret's	John Helliari
Deputy Wardens:	St. Margaret's	Judith Helliari
	St. Philip & St. James'	Janet Aylesbury
Elected member	1 – Janet Buick (2015)	2 – Maggie Thackway (2017)
	3 – currently vacant	4 – currently vacant
Deanery Synod Reps:	1 - Clare Merritt (2017)	2 – currently vacant
	3 – currently vacant	
Secretary:		Sue Fear
Minute Secretary:		Sue Fear
Treasurer:		Keith Muston (until August 2020)
		Ian Buick (from August onwards)
Planned Giving Officer:		Judith Helliari

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of Parochial Church Council members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the Parochial Church Council.

Objectives and Activities

Corsley & Chapmanslade Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Achievements and Performance

Church attendance

There are 135 parishioners on the new Church Electoral Roll at the end of March 2020.

Rector's Report - Reverend Pauline Reid

In writing this report firstly it would be true that 2020 has been a year unlike any other in the life of our churches. As news of the Covid 19 pandemic spread none of us could have imagined the impact it would have on our lives.

I don't want to go through the year in minute detail, suffice it to say that our churches closed to public worship in March in the first lockdown with a brief opening up in the summer, then another shorter period of closure, opened again before closing once more after Christmas.

I want to acknowledge the tremendous work done by our churchwardens and other in making our churches safe in the times when we have been in church. The constraints of social distancing has meant that we have had to be meticulous in making sure that the correct procedures have been followed. It is entirely understandable that some of our congregation have felt unable to attend church in the times we have been open, we have tried to look after everyone by providing regular Zoom services both when we have been open and when closed. Sadly, we came to the conclusion that St Philip and St James was just too small to allow the necessary social distancing so all of our services have been at St Margaret's when constraints on opening have been lifted.

Several much-loved members of our church have died during this time. Due to the limits on numbers at funerals it has been very hard for the families not to be able to have a service that members of the local community can attend. It has been very moving to see people showing their love and support for the funeral families by lining the street and I know this has been much appreciated.

The death of our treasurer Keith Muston was a huge loss to the church and to the wider community. His title of treasurer really does not express his total commitment to church life and the extraordinary amount of time he gave to support all that we do; he is very much missed.

In the light of Keith's death, we must express our profound gratitude to Ian and Janet Buick who have put in an extraordinary amount of time consuming and meticulous work in understanding the accounts and applying a new system so that the work of the treasurer will be easier in the future.

Despite the lockdown there have occasions when we have been able to gather, most notably when we held a drive-in service at Pentecost. This was an absolutely joyous occasion despite the fact that afterwards we were informed that what we did was not allowed! Our sincere thanks must go to all who again, worked incredibly hard to make the service possible.

It is my belief that God does indeed work in mysterious ways. In a strange sort of way although we could not gather to worship during lockdown, we have fulfilled our primary calling to love God and serve the community more than we have ever done so. We have drawn up lists to make sure we could keep in touch with those who are a little isolated by phoning them regularly. We have joined in with being part of a community groups in caring for and supporting people through the pandemic. We have been more visible in the community than we ever have been.

We do have many challenges ahead, not least a financial one and we are aware that we have an aging congregation and it is very difficult to find church officers. But this does not take away from the fact that wonderful life-giving work has gone on during this past year. It has been remarkable to see how people have embraced new ways of online worship and Revd Gay has led a very successful online Alpha course.

To conclude I want to thank all of you for your commitment and continued support and friendship over this past year. It has not been easy for any of us but it continues to be my privilege to serve you as your parish priest.

Revd Pauline Reid

Churchwarden's report – St Philip & St James' – Ian Buick

2020 was a uniquely challenging year. Having begun with normal services and activities, the March lockdown brought an end to regular services in St Philip and St James for the rest of the year, but activated plans which had been previously discussed as part of the Chapmanslade village plan. The Church has been a core member of the Chapmanslade Village Initiative Group, and the pandemic required the formation of a relief group called COV-AG, which I as Church Warden have been helping to lead. Much work has been undertaken from the beginning including assisting vulnerable residents, as an extension of our pastoral work. A food box scheme was created. The mental health of all residents was identified as an area of need, and special occasions like Easter and Christmas have been times when we have been able to provide morale boosting activities and gifts to all homes in the village.

While the church has not been used for regular worship, it has been available for funerals and burials. At Remembrance and Christmas, special services were held in the Churchyard, as well as at other locations in the village. The church porch also became a vital location for school students to pick up and drop off work for home schooling. All of this has allowed us to demonstrate our duty of mission to all in our community.

At the start of the first lockdown, the church oil tank pipe began to leak. Fortunately it was spotted by a member of the Busy Bees pre-school staff and the leak was stopped and contained. A very new type of fireproof replacement oil tank was proposed by a local heating company which allows the tank to sit against the church wall. As there were no viable alternatives, this was ordered and begun in the Autumn, with completion early in 2021.

As always my thanks go to my deputy Janet Aylesbury, who has been supporting me whenever the need arose.

Churchwarden's report – St Margaret of Antioch – John Helliar

At the beginning of 2020 the church held the normal services. This changed at the end of March when the country went into lockdown because of the coronavirus. We did try to hold drive in services, but we did not have permission from the Bishop, so had to wait until permission was granted. The lockdown was eased in early July meaning that we could hold services in the church. A lengthy Risk assessment was carried out to ensure everyone's safety.

Services continued until the end of October when we had a second, month long lockdown. Fortunately, we were able to hold our Christmas service.

Dependant on finances, we do need to get some jobs done that were highlighted in the quinquennial report.

The bells are sounding wonderful, the bell chamber has been redecorated with a new carpet fitted, all funded by money raised by Maz and the bell ringers.

The War Graves Commission have supplied a plaque to commemorate the two war graves in our churchyard.

During the bad weather in the winter two limbs were blown off of the cedar tree. Wiltshire Council carried out work on the tree, removing another large branch and trimming the rest of the tree.

All weddings were cancelled due to the pandemic and the funerals were restricted to just fifteen people.

John Helliar. Churchwarden

Lay Pastoral Team – Alan Hopkinson

Pastoral Group members have continued to keep in contact with forty village residents, mainly by phone and with visits when weather/restrictions permitted. Over half of these have been on a weekly basis. Visits to welcome new residents to the village have been restricted to three, as several members elderly and self-isolating.

Chapmanslade Church of England VA Primary School – Minnie House

Following the writing of last year's Annual report life for the whole school community- pupils, parents, staff and governors, and the wider community has certainly seen even greater challenges than any of us could have ever expected 12 months ago.

The last year has been exceptionally challenging for everyone and has certainly tested the strength of all in keeping going in the face of such unprecedented uncertainty, adversity, increased workload and personal anxiety. Our praise and admiration for all the teachers and staff within schools, in the face of all they have had to deal with during the Covid pandemic cannot be underestimated. Schools have become such an established institution in our lives not just for our children's education but also as a means of enabling us to continue our own careers and it isn't until something such as Covid comes along that we begin to recognize that teaching isn't an easy ride, with long holidays and short working days. The role requires a strong personal commitment for children and meeting their needs at the highest possible level.

For the children at Chapmanslade this commitment is very strong, has continued throughout the last twelve months and has been backed with the consistent desire to get all children back into school. Following the lockdown in March, which focused on schools providing care for vulnerable pupils and key worker families, we moved into a sunny spring and summer, optimism came to the fore and some children were able to return by the end of the summer term, in line with the Government guidance. Parents were able to attend parents' evenings on site, prospective parents were able to view the school and children in Year 6 were able to meet to say a fond farewell to their classmates and their teachers. September brought with it a great deal of hope and with strong, safe and secure systems in place for social distancing all children were able to return to school. Reception children were welcomed into school and settled to the routines well. The calmness of children returning in September and their enthusiasm cannot be underestimated and the systems for entering and leaving the school grounds, using the church pathway to enable a one-way system, was well supported by parents and even reduced the traffic congestion on the High Street!

In March 2020 Governance, which remains a small and highly committed, skilled group of people, moved to remote meetings and has been able to continue its main roles of monitoring finances and holding leaders to account with an added strong emphasis on Covid requirements and pupil and staff safety. It was evident that in September pupils were able to slot back into the learning routine and good progress was being made on ensuring pupils were on track to achieve the expectations by the end of the academic year. Covid requirements and monitoring the processes in school for safety measures became a high priority for Governance as well as ensuring staff well-being.

In their monitoring role the Governors also conducted telephone conversations with the parents of Reception children. These were welcomed and were very positive, with parents feeling that their children were safe in school, had settled in well, were happy and keen to learn. The Headteacher and staff were able to meet and greet in the mornings, keeping a social distance and this continuous communication was appreciated by parents. Remote learning was enabled for those pupils who might not be able to be in school and developing this provision for all pupils to be a seamless process, whether in or out of school increased the workload for teachers considerably. Everyone was certainly ready for a well-deserved Christmas break. It was very clear that all children in school in a well- managed and safe environment, was the best possible option. With the staff and Head Teacher permission, Governors also conducted a written questionnaire with staff which was also a positive process and clearly showed that the increased workload was impacting on staff and that the Headteacher had put in several strategies to support staff and enable the workload to be managed effectively.

Governance has continued with the main on-going items throughout this time and with particular emphasis on a small school budget and tracking of pupil progress and attainment. The school finances are always tight in a small school and thanks to the skills of the school business manager and the Headteacher, spending has been robustly managed over the last five years enabling savings where possible to be used effectively. The Headteacher has taken on a teaching commitment teaching a class for two days of the week and whilst there has been no requirement for National testing of pupils, staff have continued to make their own assessments of pupil's progress, throughout the pandemic. Some catch up funding has been provided by the Government to support pupils who may need support following lockdowns. Governors and staff have been able to access on-line training, throughout the pandemic and these sessions have proved to be more manageable than having to travel to and from courses, as in the past. Chapmanslade Chair of Governors, Annual Church Report- February 2021 As with the world in general anxieties were also being raised in December, as the numbers contracting Covid escalated at the end of the Autumn Term. Fortunately, there were no links to Covid cases at Chapmanslade school, and it was evident as we approached Christmas that another lockdown was probable with the Government being very clear that schools would remain open.

The Head Teacher and staff were very upbeat when they returned on January 4th and looking forward to another good term of learning. However, lockdown on the night of the 4th brought with it a different decision from that expected and a very different and surprising situation than that experienced in March 2020.

The widening of the keyworker category enabling more places in school was a huge challenge for most schools and even more so for small schools such as Chapmanslade. The number of eligible pupils was sitting at 40%. Whilst the school welcomed all those who turned up in the first week, it was evident that this was not going to be a sustainable nor safe approach. At the same time a couple of pupils and some staff, including the HT became unwell and the school needed to close for two days until testing results could be obtained. Fortunately, none of the illnesses were diagnosed as Covid, although in themselves and for some staff quite debilitating. Our thanks go to all the key worker parents who took on the Government advice of keeping their children at home when they too were at home. We recognize that parents working from home and supporting their learning has been a very difficult challenge but keeping their children at home, when they could, enabled a wider provision for pupils of a wider number of key workers, as required and all in a safe environment. Most days saw 20% of pupils within the vulnerable pupil and key worker categories accommodated. The Remote Learning which was worked on by staff at the beginning of the Autumn term was well established by the end of September and was able to be delivered throughout the Lockdown with children in and out receiving the continuing planned curriculum. The Head Teacher and staff have been very keen to have all children back and have welcomed the re-opening of schools on March 8th, believing that this is the best solution for pupils and are well prepared and looking forward to having all children returning on that date.

Governance and succession planning are high on the Agenda with many Governors now in their second term of office. At present we have a full complement of Parent Governors. We were sorry to lose Adam Brill in October 2020 and are very grateful for the input he has made during his time as a Governor. We have been very fortunate in being able to welcome Charlie Hanney, in his place shortly after his departure. We look forward to working with her on the Governing Body. We are continuing to encourage new Governors both Foundation and those with other skills to a join the Governing Body and the PCC's help, particularly in filling the Foundation Governors roles, would be greatly appreciated.

The Chapmanslade School community including those in Governance has had a huge new learning experience over the last year and one which requires serious on-going reflection as

we move from the present situation, cautiously out of Lockdown and hopefully into another new norm.

We are very grateful for the on-going work of the Busy Bees Pre-School on the school site and particularly for their support in running the After School Club for the main-stream children in Chapmanslade School.

We would also like to thank all the parents and the Community for their support for the school and also the Covid Action Group in recognizing the commitment of staff and the challenges being faced during this time, in the form of their gifts delivered to all staff.

I would also like to express the thanks of the Parish Council to the staff and pupils for their participation in the choosing of road names for the new housing Development at Barters Farm. The children's choices were well thought through and a refreshing contribution. I know the children were keen to participate and hopefully the name chosen from their contributions will make it past the scrutiny of Wiltshire Council.

The one thing that remains constant is that Chapmanslade remains a good school, with the Head Teacher, staff and Governors committed to achieving the very best for all children, whatever the challenges having to be faced. We remain very fortunate in having this strong and caring provision within our community.

Minnie House Chair of Governors.

Lite Bites Lunches – Maureen Willcox

Lite Bites – September 2019 – February 2020

Date	Charity	Amount raised
25/9/19	Warminster Food Bank	£105
23/10/19	RNLI	£92.10
27/11/19	Royal British Legion	£90
11/12/19	The Children's Society	£273 * the Christmas lunch
22/1/20	Homeless – Julien House	£90
26/2/20	Wiltshire Air Ambulance	£119

We welcomed our "Regulars" back to Lite Bites in September and were looking forward to another 8 months of fund raising in the most social way; convivial conversation over hearty, home-made soup. Unfortunately, that was not to be but at least we managed 6 months before COVID-19 struck! As it turns out we were very lucky to have been able to have our Christmas lunch, which is always a great favourite, as it was sorely missed at the end of 2020.

When we were able to serve our soup, we had a "team" of volunteers making the delicious soups; Di Britten, Laura Gates, Dot Robertson, John Hellier and myself. We took it in turns to provide a choice of four soups each month, always ensuring that at least one was suitable for Vegetarians. We regularly had between 18 and 22 people coming for lunch on the fourth Wednesday of the month. At Christmas we call on many more willing volunteers to help us serve our Christmas lunch to around 40 villagers. We are very grateful for their help because without them the event would not be possible. Those who attend the monthly soup lunches all come at Christmas time but we also invite others from the two villages, many of whom live alone and really appreciate a Christmas lunch amongst friends.

Unfortunately, my Lite Bites report has to end there as we have not been able to serve our soup since February last year but are hoping that we may be able to get together by Easter – thinking VERY positively!

Bell-ringing Team – Michael Attenborough (Vice-captain)

2020 proved to be to be a very sad and trying year for the ringers.

Following a very short illness in the late summer, our Tower Captain Marion Moldon passed away on 23rd September and which came as a shock to us all. She will very much be missed by Corsley ringers and the Devizes branch as well as all of us associated with the church and village. The tower was able to ring for her Memorial Service.

As a result of the pandemic, the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (CCCBR) decided fairly early on in the year that ringing, due to the proximity of the ringers to each other, had to stop and it was only when the lock-down was lifted that the decision was taken to be allowed to ring every other bell. As a result, on days when there has been a service at St Margaret's, we have been able to achieve this. However, practice nights and any other ringing have not been resumed. Government guidelines were again tightened later in the year and this resulted in the year and this resulted in only being able to ring a 5minute bell prior to service.

The restoration of the bells was completed in 2019 and during 2020 we were able to complete improvement of the ringing chamber by re-painting the walls and replacing the very worn carpet. The belfry was carefully cleaned and protective wire covering the louvres was replaced to deter the invasion of birds which had been damaging the bells and their mechanism.

At present we have 12 Ringers who would normally come to Wednesday practices and are usually able to ring for Sunday service and events at the church. We also have 4 probationers but at present, not surprisingly, we have no teaching programme active. When we are able to, the tower members will meet to elect a Captain to run the tower. At present as Vice-captain, I have taken on that role. Hopefully it won't be too long before usual practices and Sunday ringing may return.

Home Groups - Trudi Hopkinson

Homegroup After Alpha 2020:

We started studying the twelve disciples in January 2020. Stopped for lent and then lockdown started. Majority of the group's members did not want to continue the study by email or other ways, preferring life meetings and hoping for a speedy end to corona.

From June 2020 the group was send weekly links to Canon J John's The Ten Commandments internet study. In September rev Gay Maynard and I started a new zoom Alpha course with help from four other church members and a prayer group. Six people entered the course which finished in December.

Planned Giving - Judith Helliar

It was with great sadness that the PCC lost a great friend and Treasurer in Keith Muston in 2020. Keith had not only held the post of Treasurer in an exceptional way, but was always there to help anyone, and as Planned Giving Officer and Fundraising Chairman I found that I relied on his ability to help with financial matters greatly. Keith's ability to calmly get the most onerous jobs completed, count and recount many of my totals of money made at events. He was able to translate planned giving forms into easily understood language even I could understand – if Keith said it will work, I know it would – he is sorely missed I know by his lovely family Marion, Thomas and Hannah and his many friends in our church community.

During 2020 we relied greatly on our regular Planned Giving support as we have received only a small amount from plate collections due to the closure of St Mary's and the temporary closure of St Philip and St James. We have 36 people contributing either thru the planned giving system or the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). Contributing £18,434 plus £4,608 in Gift Aid. It has been suggested that a fresh drive should be made to ask those on the Electoral Role if they would be willing to support our work in the community by joining our Parish Giving Scheme.

Fundraising - Judith Helliar

Due to Covid restrictions ore planned events for 2020 were cancelled.

Thanks must go to Bob Maynard for our Quiz – “It grows in the soil”, which raised £300.

Hopefully with a lifting of restrictions we should be able to hold some events in 2021, including Corsley House Open Gardens and a Harvest Flower Festival. These will entail a lot of work but we hope with the support of our church members and village support ore fundraising will be both enjoyable and worthwhile.

Parish Link with South Sudan - Charlie Thackway, Richard Paul & Gay Maynard

Juba Basic Schools

Corsley and Chapmanslade Parish have continued to maintain a close link with Juba Basic schools by the provision of bursaries for pupils. 6 private individuals fund bursaries for children attending any one of six Basic schools in Juba. In addition, Chapmanslade school have continued with their sponsorship of Visitor Yeno Ruben a p7 pupil attending St Phillips Basic school.

2020 was a most difficult year for Juba basic schools, due to Covid 19 they closed in March. As the schools receive no government funding, they quickly experienced considerable financial problems. Parents/guardians stopped paying school fees, resulting in virtually no revenue coming in. This led to the non-payment of staff salaries in May, then staff being placed on unpaid leave. Schools did reopen for p8 pupils to study for their final exams, they were tutored by staff receiving no wages. It is now planned for the schools to reopen fully in April 2021.

As always, we are trying to find new sponsors if you feel you would like to sponsor a child please contact Richard Paul on rpaul2011@hotmail.co.uk.

Juba Diocesan Model Secondary School (JDMSS) Report

This has been a challenging year for JDMSS as, in addition to the usual challenges in South Sudan, the school has had to implement emergency measures in response to the COVID-19 crisis. Soon after starting its new academic year in April 2020, the Government of South Sudan closed all schools in Juba due to the growing number of COVID-19 infections. The Headmaster and staff immediately put into place distance learning arrangements allowing the students to continue their studies from home and delivering their work to the school for marking. These arrangements have succeeded in continuing education for all students throughout the year. The Senior Year 4 students were allowed back into school in October so that they could prepare for their Certificate of Secondary Education exams, which they will sit at the end of March. Then in April, we hope and prey that the whole school will be able to return to their studies as normal.

The UK based Friends of JDMSS has continued to support the school by the provision of emergency funding to pay the staff salaries and with funding to renovate the Girls Boarding House. We are still seeking sponsors to provide £150 bursaries to the poorest but gifted students. This represents two thirds of a student's annual school fees. If anyone is interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact: Charles or Maggie Thackway (email: maggiethackway@icloud.com)

Our South Sudan link – Heytesbury Deanery with Maridi

Our regular monthly prayer meetings have not happened since the first lockdown in March 2020, although we continue to pray in our own homes with the regular updates from Jane Shaw. When we first formed a support group following the first visit to Maridi in 2009 our main purpose was to pray for them and they for us – everything is rooted in prayer. Our fundraising efforts have come from that prayer and a desire to also give practical help.

Raising funds for Maridi from across the deanery has had its challenges in this difficult year. All planned events were cancelled due to the pandemic but we did raise £520 on JustGiving and secured an annual donation of £3,000 from the St. Denys trust fund and there have been various donations from individuals through the year. Thank you so much to all who have given.

The money that is raised means that adult students can study at the Chaima Christian Institute in Maridi which is now a campus for the University, education is key to this young nation growing in stability. Due to Covid-19, it soon became apparent that help was needed to be able to purchase food and soap for handwashing. Inflation on market prices had become so high that many were in real danger of starvation, we sent money to Bishop Moses to be spent where he discerned the greatest need. Bishop Moses responded – “We are humbled by your concern and practical love to the church workers in the Diocese of Maridi in these times of need. Your support is acknowledged with much appreciation. Extend our thanks to all brothers and sisters in Heytesbury deanery.” Later in the year we were able to send a remittance to help with the paying of staff at Chaima.

We face another difficult year as we seek to help and support Bishop Moses and his flock as their struggles continue. It is a privilege to stand with our brothers and sisters in the Gospel as they never give up seeking to grow Christ’s Church, numerically and in understanding of God’s Word. There should have been a short mission in November delivered by ‘Rooted in Jesus’ with a representative from our deanery joining the team but this has been postponed, understandably.

We are very much depending on people’s generosity from across the Deanery to boost our fund, however large or small all donations are very gratefully received. We hope to be making an appeal again soon. Individuals may make donations at any time sending directly to Graham Connellan our treasurer, I am happy to give his details on request.

Thrive – Gay Maynard

Thrive is a learning community aimed at helping rural communities and churches to grow to be the best they can be. It has been organized by the Diocese and funded for a three-year period by Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS) in partnership with ‘lead academy’ (better together) and The Arthur Rank Centre (Supporting Rural Communities and Churches). We have a small team of people from across the benefice including Pauline and myself, working alongside teams from other parishes from around the Wiltshire Deaneries.

We had our first gathering towards the end of last November (using Zoom) under the heading of ‘Journey’. We began and finished each meeting with prayer and covered such subjects as: - Our journey so far, our history and answering ‘Why?’ questions, Culture Change, Metaphors, Models and Leaders (how do we see ourselves, what is our model?) and Burning Issues where we had to identify what required attention to give us a better working model/practice. We also did a ‘Merlin Exercise’, which was really difficult to do! Merlin apparently lived backwards, so we were asked to think ourselves three years hence and describe where we had got to – I suppose you could say it was a way of prophesying the goals we would like to see happening in our situations.

We set out a working document which will help guide us and keep a record of how we are progressing (or not!) We identified a number of burning issues which we will be tackling over the next two years. The most immediate one is to be better at communicating across the benefice. The group also felt that prayer was foundational to our journey and so we are working on a Benefice prayer. Other initiatives will be worked out in time so ‘watch this space!’ Our next training sessions will focus on ‘Leadership.’

Safeguarding – Pauline Reid

There have been no incidents of concern regarding safeguarding throughout the year. Our safeguarding policy is in place and reviewed every year. We continue to safeguard those people who are vulnerable with regard to Covid 19 by adhering to government protocols with regard to safety when our churches have been open.

Treasurer’s Notes - Ian Buick

Taking over as temporary treasurer in August 2020 was for the saddest of reasons. We all owe Keith Muston, a huge debt of gratitude. Throughout his illness and repeated spells in Hospital, Keith, ably supported by Marion, maintained the church accounts with his usual dedication. It was only due to his extensive detailed records, that Janet Buick and I were able to transfer all the information from his spreadsheets to a computer-based accounting system. While this took the rest of the year to do, they are now fully transferred and capable of providing swift access to every part of the accounts. The Dio-

cases are now looking at another unified computer accounting system for all parishes to use, so we will have to make a decision about the best way forward.

Full details are in the Financial Statement, but the perilous condition of our accounts cannot be underestimated. 2019 saw our Parish Share payment drain our General Fund completely. The General Fund is the pot of money we pay all our running costs from. Reserved funds for fabric and churchyards can only be used for those purposes. The PCC has taken the measured view that we should not repeat the total depletion of our general fund in 2020, in order that we can react to unexpected bills which are not covered by restricted funds. For this reason, we were left with a £16,000 shortfall in our Parish Share payment, due to the absence of fund raising and proceeds from normal service collections. The first six months of 2021 are going to be a repeat of this, so we must expect another difficult year.

I would like to take this opportunity to give my sincere thanks to three people who have been the key to getting the 2020 accounts completed. Despite having the terrible shock of losing Keith, Marion Munton has continued to provide me with all the information I have needed which was kept at home in paper or computer form, and even now, still arriving in the post. Janet Buick, with her extensive experience in financial administration, investigated and computerised every bank entry for the entire year, so that the data could be used to produce the accounts. If she had not done this work the 2020 accounts would not have been completed on time. Dave Edmunds our independent examiner, provided some key advice when I began looking at the accounts, and continues to provide essential support.

Appendix: Safeguarding policies

Cley Hill Parishes

Parish Policy Statement for Safeguarding Adults who may be at Risk

The following policy was reviewed and agreed at the PCC meeting held on Wednesday 21st March 2018

- As members of the PCC we commit our church community to the support, nurture, protection and safeguarding of all. We recognise that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that all adults should be offered respect and given inclusion and empowerment within the church.
- We are committed to adopt and implement a safeguarding policy for adults when they are vulnerable, accepting as a minimum, the Salisbury Diocese Framework for Safeguarding and Good Practice (August 2016). The parish will follow diocesan procedures and recommended good practice, while being responsive to local parish requirement.
- We are committed to reviewing this policy statement annually, and as part of this to check that our parish safeguarding procedures, including DBS checks are up-to-date and relevant.
- We will review and endorse all safeguarding policies annually, at the first meeting of the PCC following APCM, so that new members are aware of their responsibilities and confirm the existence of their parish policy on safeguarding adults when they are vulnerable.
- We will undertake careful selection of all those who will work with vulnerable groups and appropriate support and opportunities for training. We will adhere to the Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance 2016 published by the National Safeguarding Team and approved by the House of Bishops.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made, that a vulnerable person for whom we have responsibility, may have been harmed.

- This parish will cooperate fully with the statutory agencies in every situation and will not conduct their own investigations.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care to any adult who has suffered abuse.
- We will care for and supervise any member of our church community known to have offended.
- The Parochial Church Council of this parish acknowledges its responsibility for all who work with young adults and adults who may be at risk of abuse, that is done in the name of the Church. It requires all those engaged in such work to be properly appointed and supported in accordance with current good practice and guidelines as noted above.

Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is: Reverend Pauline Reid.

Cley Hill Parishes
Parish Policy Statement for Safeguarding Children & Young People

The following policy was reviewed and agreed at the PCC meeting held on Wednesday 21st March 2018

- As members of the PCC we commit our church community to the support, nurture, protection and safeguarding of all, especially the young and vulnerable. We recognise that our work with children and young people is the responsibility of the whole church community. We are fully committed to acting within current legislation, guidance, national frameworks and the Diocesan of Salisbury Safeguarding Framework and Good Practice Guidelines. We will also endeavour to act in an open, transparent and accountable way in working in partnership with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Children and Adult Social care Services, the Police, Probation Service and other agencies to safeguard children and young people and assist in bringing to justice anyone who has committed an offence against them.
- We will ensure that all necessary checks are made to promote the safe selection and recruitment of ordained and lay ministers, paid workers and volunteers working with children and young people, and to provide the necessary supervision, support and training to them in order that they can undertake their roles effectively. We will adhere to the Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance 2016 published by the National Safeguarding Team and approved by the House of Bishops.
- We will respond without delay to every concern raised that a child or young person may have been harmed or be at risk from harm or abuse, or be at risk from the behaviour of an adult or child.
- We will fully cooperate with the Diocese and appropriate statutory agencies during any investigation into abuse, including when allegations are made against a member of the church community
- We will ensure, in partnership with the Diocese and other agencies, that care and supervision is provided for any member of our church community known to have offended against a child or young person, or to pose a risk to them.
- We are committed to reviewing our safeguarding Policy annually, and as part of this, to check that our parish safeguarding procedures, including DBS checks, are up to date and relevant. Our Policy will be endorsed at the first meeting of the PCC following APCM so that new members are aware of their responsibilities and to confirm the existence of the parish policy.

Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is: Reverend Pauline Reid